

**ABSTRACT**

A system for scribing indicia into a surface using a laser as an emission source. Comprises an emitter housing in which is disposed a laser source and a marking head pivotally joined to a wall of the emitter housing. Means in the marking head are provided for controlling the beam scan over the surface being inscribed responsive to a digitized control signal representing the indicia. In a preferred embodiment the marking head is pivotally attached to a side wall of the emitter housing that has been configured to define a mounting face.